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Swiss agency praises GJTMAP for providing justice at grassroots level

Statesman Report

ABBOTTABAD: The Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) members appreciated the efforts being undertaken by Gender Justice Through Musalihat Anjuman Project (GJTMAP) for providing accessible, free and effective justice to the common masses through Musalihat Anjumans (MAs).

Chloe Milner, Programme Manager-Pakistan, South Asian Division, SDC-Bern, Switzerland and Aamir Khan Goraya, National Programme Officer, SDC, Pakistan, stated this during their visit to the district as one of the Project Districts, says a statement issued here Monday.

They were accompanied by National Project Manager, GJTMAP, Hamid Raza Afridi, Provincial Project Manager (NWFP), GJTMAP, Sajeela Sohail and other members of project team.

The purpose of the visit of SDC team was to examine the functioning of LG system, particularly ADR mechanism viz.



GJTMAP, progress review and feedback from government counterparts (including: Local Government, Police, Judiciary, Civil Society Organisations and MA representatives).

The team called on Sahibzada Mohammad Anis, DCO Abbottabad in his office.

The DCO said that the project, being carried out by Ministry of Local Government and

Rural Development in coordination with UNDP, is doing a great job in helping the common people in resolving their issues as well as Police and Judiciary in reducing their case load.

Besides the Project team members: ACO Abbottabad, ASP Abbottabad, woman members of Musalihat Anjuman Justice Advocates (MAJA), union nazims, naib nazims and secre-

taries were also present.

Afridi apprised the team that the project is presently working in 20 districts (five from each province) all over the country and 991 Musalihat Anjumans (MAs) have been formed out of 1,051 union councils (94 percent) with an effort to ensure women representation in them.

He said that out of total 4,622 cases received by MAs, 2,896 (63%) cases had been amicably resolved.

He told the team that the Project has been short listed as one of the top cases of good practices in capacity development in Pakistan, for an ongoing "Scoping Study on Capacity Development", being carried out by Economic Affairs Division/Asian Development Bank.

During the question answer session, the female members of MAJA said that MAs are doing a tremendous job in alleviating the sufferings of women as they are accessible, free and effective.

Later, the team visited Union Council Mirpur.